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UNCLAS KUWAIT 003413

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION OF PRESUMPTIVE DEATH OF THREE
EGYPTIAN DRIVERS IN IRAQ

11. (U) Embassy Kuwait received a letter from Major General Gary D. Speer, Deputy Commanding General of the Coalition Forces Land Component Command (CFLCC), requesting post's assistance in resolving the cases of three Egyptian drivers presumed to have been killed while driving in Iraq (text in para 2). CFLCC is asking for Government of Egypt (GOE) help in providing death certificates for the three men, so that a death benefit of approximately \$34,000 may be paid to each man's next-of-kin. We will pass the letter to the Egyptian Embassy in Kuwait. We would also request that Embassy Cairo relay the text of the letter to their interlocutors in the GOE.

12. (U) BEGIN TEXT OF LETTER.

September 15, 2004

Department of the Army, Coalition Forces Land Component
Command
United States Army Central Command
Camp Arifjan, Kuwait

Office of the Deputy Commanding General

Matthew H. Tueller
Charge d'Affaires
Embassy of the United States of America
Kuwait City, Kuwait

Dear Mr. Tueller:

Thank you for the Country Team's continued support of the Coalition Forces Land Component Command. Embassy involvement in the foreign national driver crisis has been critical in moving this issue forward. As a related matter, request your assistance in the cases of three Egyptian drivers who were killed in action while driving in Iraq for our host nation contractors.

Missing since April 11, 2004, Egyptian truck drivers, Mr. Ibrahim Moussa, PP Number 792387, and Galal El Sayet Osman, PP Number 488960, worked under United States Army Contract Number W912D1-04-D-0001 for Ahamadah General Trading and Contracting Company. Also, Habsy Elsayed, PP Number 1438858, worked under United States Army Contract Number W912D1-04-D-004 for IAP, Incorporated and has been missing since April 26, 2004.

These men have been missing since the convoys they were traveling in came under hostile fire from anti-coalition forces. Although their bodies were not recovered, the nature of the attack and the extent of the damage to these individuals and their vehicles were such that they are presumed to be dead. Our deepest sympathy and sorry is respectfully given to their families.

These drivers' employment contracts provided for a death gratuity in the amount of 10,000 Kuwaiti Dinar per person. Request assistance with the Egyptian Embassy in obtaining Government of Egypt death declarations (death certificates) for these men, so the death gratuities can be provided to their next of kin.

Respectfully,
Gary D. Speer
Major General, US Army
Deputy Commanding General
LeBaron